

GERMANS SILENCE FRENCH FORCES ALONG MEUSE AND GROUND AT CENTER

RUSSIANS ROUT AUSTRIANS, MOVE TOWARD BERLIN

CARRANZA READY TO QUIT; PEACE IS BELIEVED NEAR

GERMAN ATTACKS AT EAST OF CENTER REPULSED; ALLIES SURPRISED BY RESISTANCE

Official Statement in Berlin Says Kaiser's Offensive Continues Without Serious Check; Press Northward in Belgium to Attack Antwerp.

French Government Tightens Up on News and Great Battle Continues Sixteenth Day Without Decisive Advantage to Either Side

**BY FREDERICK WERNER.**  
BERLIN, Sept. 28.—(Via Amsterdam).—Part of the French forts along the Meuse south of Verdun have been silenced by the German artillery, some ground has been gained by the Germans at the center of the battle line in France and heavy fighting continues on both wings, according to a statement issued here today.

"The offensive movement of our troops continues without severe check," it said. "Heavy losses have been inflicted upon the enemy by our bayonet charges and they had to bring up their reserves to strengthen their lines."

"At the eastern end of the battle line our artillery has silenced part of the forts on the Verdun-Toul line and we have succeeded in crossing the Meuse. The passage is being sharply resisted."

"In the center we continue to gain, despite the enemy's heavy artillery fire which is now showing better aim."

"On the west we have held all the ground we gained, though the enemy has received large reinforcements, and is making counter attacks. These, however, have been repulsed."

This statement was issued on the situation in the eastern theater of war.

"The German forces have advanced more than 25 miles in the Suwalki district, though the Russians are making a determined resistance. We have captured a number of guns and many prisoners."

**GERMANS PRESS NORTH IN BELGIUM TO MAKE ATTACK ON ANTWERP**  
ANTWERP, Sept. 28.—Despite the tremendous strain upon their troops in France, the Germans continue to press northward in Belgium with the evident intention of attacking the forts around Antwerp at the earliest opportunity.

The German artillery is again bombarding the Belgian works at Malines. A Belgian detachment, which left the Antwerp garrison on Sunday, encountered a heavy force of German cavalry less than five miles from this city. In the sharp fight which ensued, the Germans were driven off.

It is reported that severe fighting took place along the Dender river, where a German infantry brigade and two regiments of cavalry supported by six batteries of heavy guns, defeated the Belgians. The Germans hit the German line in the front and rear. The Germans retired leaving a number of wounded and several ammunition wagons.

Severe fighting at Termonde. There has been severe fighting near Termonde, where the invaders flung large masses of men against the Belgian center. From all indications the fighting has been strenuous and a number of days in the preliminary stages of a decisive battle which is expected soon.

So far the Belgians have refused to throw their entire army against the Germans because if such a movement was undertaken and the Germans were victorious, Antwerp would be left without any defensive force except the artillery.

The Germans hold a strong position south and west of Termonde last week. It was believed that their objective in that region was the bridge at Termonde spanning the Scheldt river. Once in possession of this bridge the Germans had obviously intended putting an arm across the Scheldt to attack St. Nicholas.

Bringing Artillery Into Play.  
With St. Nicholas in their possession the Germans would be in an excellent position to menace Antwerp upon the west.

In the fighting around Termonde the Germans used their heavy and heavy artillery into play and shelled the city, doing terrible damage. The hotel De Ville was riddled.

The village of Audenhem has been practically destroyed by German artillery fire. The Belgians, who were opposing the German advance at that point, took up a position that placed the village between them and the enemy. The invaders turned their heavy guns on Audenhem and soon the place was in flames.

(Audenhem is about two miles from Termonde, and a little less than 20 miles southwest of Antwerp.)

**TYPHOID CAUSES RAVAGES.**  
LONDON, Sept. 28.—An epidemic of typhoid fever has broken out in the German army and large numbers of men are being stricken with this disease. The field hospitals are crowded with soldiers suffering from this affliction and with dysentery and measles. Where armies fighting for many days over the same ground as in the case in France, the spread of epidemics is facilitated. This is especially so when weather conditions are unfavorable.

The weather in eastern France up until Saturday has been rainy and chilly and the men have been exposed for more than two weeks to these inclement conditions, sleeping in muddy, wet trenches and getting insufficient food.

There is also much sickness in the French and British armies, but being nearer their bases, these troops have had the advantage of better supplies, both as regards food and clothing. The allies have also the advantage of better railroad and hospital service.

**Corpses Awaiting Interment.**  
So severe has been the fighting in the battle making up the great Aisne engagement, that there has not been time to bury all the corpses and destroy the carcasses of dead horses.

**SERVIANS CLAIM NEW VICTORY OVER AUSTRIANS**  
Official Statement Claims 300,000 Troops Were Repulsed Along River Drina.

NISH, Servia, Sept. 28.—In an official statement issued today the Serbian government claims to have won another decisive victory along the Drina river over 300,000 Austrians.

The advance against Sarajevo, the scene of the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, heir to the Austrian throne, and his wife, is continuing successfully, the government says. The allied Serbian and Montenegrin armies have reached Rhamania plateau, about 20 miles east of Sarajevo. Many male inhabitants of Bosnia (Austrian territory) are joining the Serbian army of invasion because of the racial relations between the Slavic and Serbs.

Bombardment of Belgrade continues with further damage to the palace. The Austrians seem to have concentrated their fire against the royal residence.

**CYCLISTS WRECK BRIDGE**  
Three Empty Trains Sent Crashing Over Broken Viaduct.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—It was a squad of cyclists that wrecked the railroad bridge at Bierk, says the Exchange Telegraph Co. correspondent writing from Blankenburg, Germany.

"A party of 140 cyclists blew up the viaduct," he says, "but they were surprised away at full speed and crashed over the wrecked viaduct, thereby cutting communication between Mons and Brussels."

**CRACOW LAST STRONG POINT BEFORE CAPITAL**  
Germans Recall Invaders From Poland to Strengthen Line in Galicia for Last Great Stand Against Russians.

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 28.—The Russian cruiser Oleg is reported to have been wrecked off the coast of Finland according to the captain of a Swedish ship arriving from Helsinki.

The Oleg was in Asiatic waters during the Russo-Japanese war. The ship was laid down in 1901 and had a displacement of 6,675 tons. Her crew numbered 573.

PETROGRAD, Sept. 28.—The German forces retreating from the Suwalki district of Russia have rallied on the Goiday-Margrabova-Lyck line and a severe battle is raging there, according to official reports received at the war office today.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—The unconditional surrender of Duala, capital of Kamerun, in German West Africa, and Bonamung to the English was officially announced today by the government press bureau.

PEKIN, Sept. 28.—Japanese troops fought their way to a point only seven and a half miles from the main fortifications of Tsing Tau, says an announcement issued by the Japanese minister today. The German legation at this city reports that the German forces have fallen back on their main lines.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—A Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam says that during the bombardment of Malines the Germans attacked Grimbergen but were repulsed with heavy losses.

**33,000 CANADIANS LEAVE FOR FRONT**  
Fleet of 19 Ships Bearing Flower of Dominion Military Forces to War Sails Down St. Lawrence.

QUEBEC, Que., Sept. 28.—(By telephone to New York to escape the Canadian telegraph censorship).—Thirty-three thousand Canadian troops are sailing down the St. Lawrence river today on their way to France to fight the Germans. The fleet of 19 ships bearing the first Canadian contingent to the war set sail last night and the last to get away left early today.

The forces include cavalry, infantry and artillery, which has been training at camp for several weeks. They are the flower of the Canadian military forces.

Five ponder guns had been mounted on all the transports which include a number of former Atlantic liners, before they sailed. The vessels had been painted the dull colors of the cruisers that assist Gen. von Boller from the bay of St. Lawrence to Boulogne.

**REPORT HEADQUARTERS OF GEN. BOEHN IS AFIRE**  
OSTEND, Sept. 28.—Unconfirmed reports received here today state that the city of Mons, headquarters of the German army sent to assist Gen. von Kluck, is burning and that the railroad bridge on the main line between Brussels and Mons at Bierk, has been blown up, cutting railroad communication between the German forces at Brussels and Mons.

One version of the destruction of the railroad bridge says that it was accomplished by a Belgian force, but it is more likely that if it has been blown up this was done by a strong detachment of French of British troops.

The destruction of the bridge would put the German right wing in a serious predicament, as it would be unable to get supplies from Brussels. No reason is put forth for the report that Mons is burning. It is hardly probable that the allies have succeeded in driving the Germans from there and it is understood to be a strategic point in the German operations that they would hardly abandon.

**STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.**  
NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Steamers sailing today: Chicago, Havre; Virginie, Bordeaux.

Due to arrive today: Columbia, Glasgow; Kristianfjell, D. Bergen; The "999" Clothing Co., Baker Shoe Store, Muesse's grocery, Hurwick's Cash grocery, Smith & Wherrett furniture, St. Joe Furniture Co., Walter C. Miller Coal Co., Peaser & Peaser Coal Co., The Gately Co., Clauer Jewelry Co., Bastion's drug store, Central Electric Co., South Bend Bread Co., Busse Bros. Baking Co., M. A. Fralick millinery store, Beyer Floral Co., I. W. Lower Decorating Co., The Smoger Lumber Co., Walters, dyers and cleaners.

BULLETINS

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**FRANKLIN P. MERRICK.**  
PARIS, Sept. 28.—Desperate attacks made by the Germans between the river Aisne and the Argonne forest have been repulsed by the allied French and British troops, according to an official announcement issued this afternoon. This is at least end of the center of the opposing armies.

The statement says that the general situation is unchanged but that attacks are being made continually by the Germans at certain points, the statement briefer than usual follows:

"There is nothing new in the general situation. Relative calm prevails on part of the front. At certain points, particularly between the Aisne, and the Argonne, the enemy continually attempts new and violent attacks which have been repulsed."

This statement was regarded as the least satisfactory from a news standpoint that has yet been issued. It made absolutely no mention of the situation on the right and left wings where the heaviest fighting of the 16 days' battle has been in progress.

The brevity of the official announcement was taken as an indication that the wishes of the British government as to the publication of military details would be observed, at least in part, hereafter. It is understood here that a certain plan has been conceived in the war office at London to meet by the publication of certain details made public in Paris.

It was frankly admitted at headquarters here today that though the decisive phase of the combat had not been reached, the situation was surprising by the continual attacks of the Germans and it was impossible to predict when the struggle would end.

**Kaiser Directs Army.**  
That the Kaiser is personally directing the offensive movements of the German army in France was the belief expressed today at the headquarters of Gen. Galleni, military governor of Paris. Evidence that the government holds the same opinion is contained in the following sentence of the official statement:

"These German attacks were made with a uniformity which denotes instructions from the highest command to seek the solution of the battle."

Thus it would seem for the time being the German emperor has assumed the task of his general staff.

The 16th day found the great battle of the Aisne raging more furiously than ever, with the heaviest fighting between the eastern and western ends of the 120-mile line.

**Losses Grow Heavier.**  
That the losses are growing heavier, due to the increased ferocity of the attacks is shown by the greater numbers of wounded that are being brought from the battle grounds. Especially heavy are the losses on the Oise, Somme and Aisne rivers, where the French and British are trying to encircle Gen. von Kluck's army and are meeting with violent counter attacks.

It is impossible to estimate the staggering loss of life that has resulted in the present conflict but it is unofficially estimated that the Germans have lost 140,000 men, killed, wounded and captured since they invaded France.

The desperate efforts of the Germans to smash the allied line indicated that they are endeavoring to conclude the engagement before England can send another army to reinforce the allies.

**Report Typhoid Epidemic.**  
It is reported from the front that an epidemic of typhoid fever has broken out in the German army, and that thousands of soldiers are in the field hospitals suffering from this disease or from measles or dysentery. The troops, worn to the point of exhaustion by continuous fighting and marching, fell easy victims to disease when subjected to the inclement weather which has been prevailing.

The battle continues to rage day and night. When the sun is not under rifle fire they are facing the hail from machine guns. When they are not in machine gun range they are under bombardment from artillery and howitzers.

Some of the troops have been under fire continuously for more than 350 hours and the only sleep they have been able to get is snatched in the trenches while artillery is crashing around them and the bullets are humming overhead.

**All Forces Engaged.**  
Both sides have all their forces engaged. The only means of strengthening weak points on the battle line is by moving troops from some other part of the front.

It seems inevitable that one of the armies must break under the terrific strain. This week the fighting will have taken on the character of a one-sided or the other.

At the eastern end of the battle front where the Germans have managed to secure a foothold on the west side of the Meuse, south of Verdun, the invaders are struggling manfully to swing their line to the northwest and thus form a complete circle of steel around Verdun and its forts.

**Fierce Fighting Rages.**  
Further to the west, toward the Argonne forest, the fighting is less heavy. But to the west of this point, between the Argonne and Rheims, the invaders have taken on a violence rivaling the fierceness of the fighting up the Oise. It was at that point that the Germans gained ground, but they subsequently lost it. At some points in that locality the trenches of the opposing armies are only 300 to 350 feet apart, and the soldiers call

to each other during the lulls in the cannonade.

Still further to the west, along the Aisne and up the Oise, there is constant fighting. The bloodiest struggle, however, is taking place in the triangle formed by the towns of Ribesourt, Bapaume and Hirson.

Wounded soldiers from the front declare that the people at large can have no conception of the tremendous nature of the war operations. The meager official bulletins convey only a feeble idea of the vastness and violence of the struggle.

**Longest Battle Known.**  
The strain of this modern fighting is something never known before and this conflict will probably go down in history as the longest battle known to mankind.

At every point where the hostile lines are within seven miles of each other the troops are under continual fire. Some times the troops lie in their wet, cold, muddy trenches for days under fire from an enemy that cannot be seen.

If the fighting goes on much longer the armies will become so weak that a decisive result will be out of the question.

Officers from the front declare that the Germans are more formidable adversaries on the defensive than when advancing to an attack. They dig themselves in extremely well and they figure mathematically every range, making their rifle fire deadly. Their field artillery finds its target with admirable precision.

It is worth noting that many officers from the firing line who return to Paris upon official missions or to have wounds dressed, lament the absence of accredited press correspondents at the front. They say that the people can have no idea of the gigantic character of the engagement and the hardships which the troops on both sides are undergoing. The international public has an imperfect idea of the colossal nature of the operations. The vast number of men engaged, the large area of operations, the fierceness of the attacks and counterattacks, the terrific bombardments and the reckless dash and bravery are not realized; the exhaustion of the troops; the suffering from wet, cold weather and lack of provisions are not fully appreciated.

**Veterans Are Hungry.**  
This greatest battle in the world's history is being carried on by veterans who are hungry. Most of them are feeling the effect, in one way or another, from two years of fierce fighting, coming on the top of a 200-mile march. The strain of being under fire constantly with the mighty guns of Germany's heavy ordnance ringing in their ears, has completely changed the nature of the men. They are hardened to blood and carnage and the danger of death which is always at hand, is an inconsiderable trifle.

The fact of course may rest upon this battle, and the fight is worthy of its mighty consequences.

Warm tribute is being paid to the excellent work of the British regiments, that generally have been supposed to exist for show purposes only. They have been in the thick of the fighting always acquitting themselves nobly. When the fighting comes down to cold steel they show a dash that was entirely unexpected.

**Achieve Glorious Feat.**  
In the recent fighting on the Aisne where the British managed to secure foothold on the northern side after a terrible struggle, the British guard troops achieved a glorious feat of arms. They were thrown across a pontoon bridge which the English sappers had constructed under fire, but no sooner had they reached the upper bank than the German artillery, which occupied a concealed position, opened fire and the shrapnel began bursting among the troops.

Before the English troops lay a stretch of open country about a mile wide. At its edge was a patch of woods which extended to the top of some hills on the crest where the German artillery was in action. The order was given to advance and with the Scots greys leading the Englishmen, charged against the German positions.

The attackers managed to reach the barbed wire entanglements but they had to face a blasting fire while crossing the open stretch. The German shells, bursting with deadly regularity, fell on every part of the British line.

Just before reaching the forest the German machine guns were turned on the Britishers. With fixed bayonets the guards swept forward and left long lines of dead and wounded in their wake.

Shouting their battle cry they fell upon the German position bayoneting the Germans. Within less than 10 minutes the forest was in British hands. (CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN)

NOMINATION COUPON

GOOD FOR 1,000 VOTES

\$500 NEWS-TIMES CASH CONTEST \$500

For \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(This coupon is good for only one nomination for each organization or individual)

BRING THIS TO THE NEWS-TIMES OFFICE.

The News-Times merchants' \$500 contest, which started this morning with the opening of the stores which are already well stocked with interest of organizations, churches, lodges, clubs and individuals, who are preparing to take advantage of this opportunity to enlarge their capital with the News-Times.

Ever since the contest was first mentioned, several days ago, the contest manager has been kept busy answering many telephone calls from people desiring additional information, and in actions point to the prediction that will be one of the most exciting, profitable and friendly contests ever undertaken in this city.

The attractive features of the contest are plainly seen in the explanation, and the people who have already laid plans for entering the contest have been quick to see the exceptional opportunities offered. This general explanation is the result of much work on the part of the contest manager and his work has already been appreciated.

Every indication points to a rapid fire, whirlwind campaign among the contestants. Within a few days the contest and its attractive prize, will be the principal topic of conversation among the shoppers, who use this paper exclusively as their guide.

As a timely tip to those who are considering entering the contest, the contest manager advises them to begin working at once. Line up all your friends and ask them to save their cash sales checks for you. All that is required of any one to do in entering the \$500 contest is to clip one of the nomination coupons which will appear daily in this paper for the first two weeks of the contest. When this coupon is neatly clipped and properly filled out it will entitle the contestant